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APR 0 4 2006

In re Application of Anthony R. Kelley et al

Application No. 10/750,628 Filed: December 19, 2003

Attorney Docket No. MFS-31952-1

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

: DECISION ON PETITION

: UNDER 37 CFR 1.182

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.182, filed March 17, 2006, to correct the second inventor's name.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

Office records have been changed to reflect that the second inventor's correct name is "Paul D. Van Buskirk." A corrected Filing Receipt, which sets forth the inventor's correct name, accompanies this decision on petition.

As authorized, the \$400 fee for the petition under 37 CFR 1.182 has been charged to petitioner's deposit account.

The printing of the patent may have progressed to the point where it may not be possible to include the inventor's correct name on the front page of the Letters Patent. In this case, petitioner may request a Certificate of Correction under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.323 (and pay the \$100 fee therefor).

Inquiries concerning this decision on petition may be directed to the undersigned at 571-272-3218.

This matter is being referred to Publishing Division.

Petitions Examiner Office of Petitions

ATTACHMENT: Corrected Filing Receipt



APPL NO.

United States Patent and Trademark Office

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450

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FIL FEE REC'D (c) DATE 10/750,628 12/19/2003 3754 1094 26 MFS-31952-1

CONFIRMATION NO. 9911

30698 NASA/MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER LSO1/OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL MSFC, AL 35812

FILING OR 371

CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT *OC000000018448336*

Date Mailed: 04/04/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Anthony R. Kelley, Madison, AL; Paul D. Van Buskirk, Humble, TX;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 30698.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 04/05/2004

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/750,628**

Projected Publication Date: Request for Non-Publication Acknowledged

Non-Publication Request: Yes

Early Publication Request: No

Title

BALANCED ORIFICE PLATE

Preliminary Class

138

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, http://www.stopfakes.gov. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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